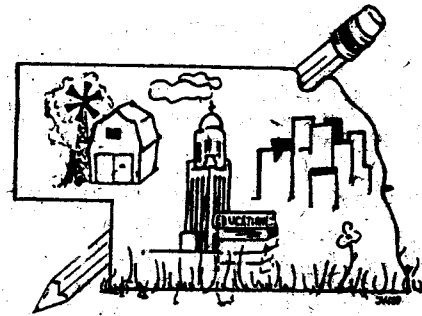


The Nebraska Observer

Vol. 6, No. 9, August 30, 1991



Karen Ormiston Recalls Caradori's Methods

by Frances Mendenhall

The conviction of Alisha Owen and the attempt to dismiss the charges of child prostitution, drug abuse, etc. as a hoax depended on the success of the FBI, county prosecutor, and the World-Herald in convincing people that the legislative investigator Gary Caradori had been a naive or even willing part of a scam. People close to Caradori were astonished at the picture that was painted of Caradori's professionalism. Caradori was killed when his private plane crashed in Illinois July 11, 1990. There has as yet been no FAA report explaining the crash.

But even though people who knew better were unconvinced that Caradori had either been duped or tried to blow the case out of proportion, still, some in the jury and many of the World-Herald's less critical readers believed it. Missing from the picture was the testimony of Karen Ormiston, Caradori's assistant who was with him during the initial contact with Alisha Owen, Troy Boner, and Danny King, as well as at most of the taped interviews. The World-Herald has never interviewed her, and she was not called as a witness in the Alisha Owen trial.

The Nebraska Observer contacted Karen Ormiston at her home in late August for a telephone interview. Ormiston was employed by Caracorp between February, 1985, and December, 1990. During the time when Gary Caradori was the investigator for the legislative committee, Ormiston was a vice president of the corporation and responsible for coordination of much of the activities related to security and the various investigations the company contracted to do. Ormiston often accompanied Caradori for contact with informants, interviews, etc. because, she said, it was better to have two people's perspectives on such

encounters in case one person overlooked something or misunderstood it.

When Caracorp was started, the group specialized in undercover and security cases, not in cases like this, Ormiston told the Observer. They really didn't have a need for such work. But in the summer of 1989, when John Stevens Berry, who had worked with Caradori before and believed he was capable of doing a good job, became the counsel for the special legislative committee, he asked Caradori to take the case.

The previous investigator, Jerry Lowe, had investigated the allegations of Lisa Webb and others, and Caradori was familiar with his findings. "We believed there must be other kids involved," Ormiston said. They did "street work," talking to people, sometimes not knowing their names, following lead after lead. There were many names. Alisha Owen's name was one in a hundred.

Contact With Casey Was Minimal

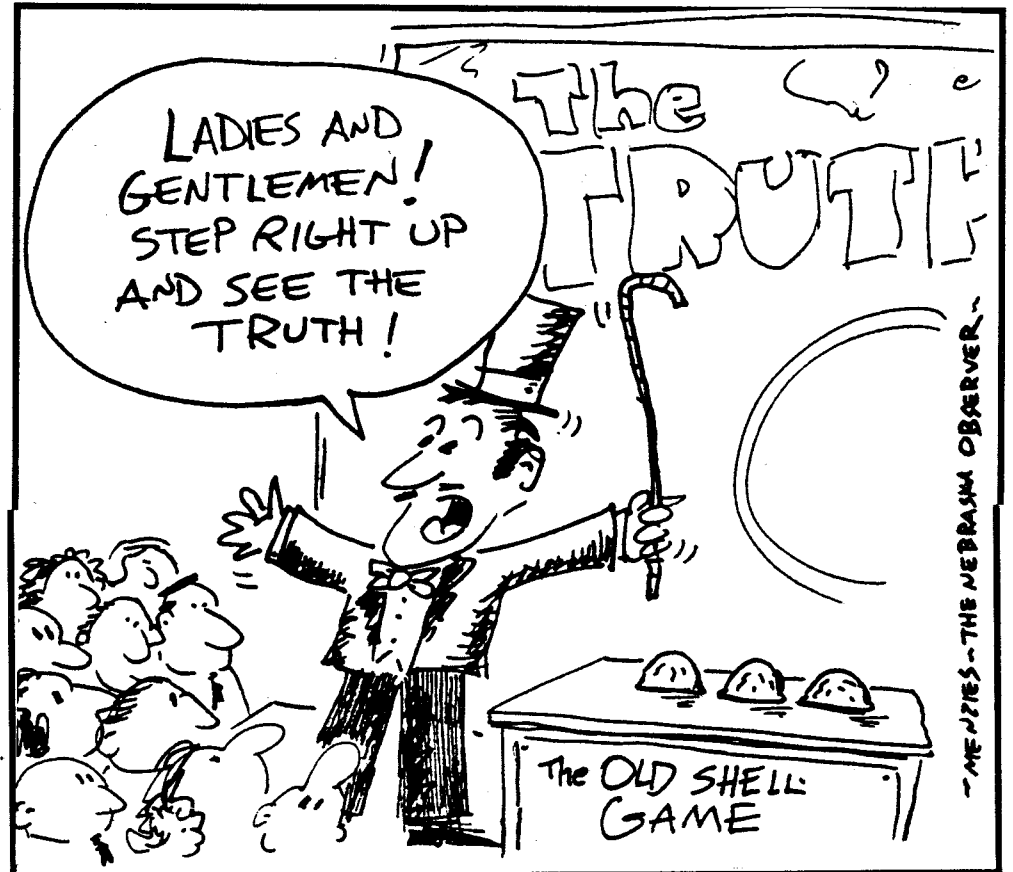
Ormiston recalled talking to Mike Casey, but denied that Casey first told them of Owen. Casey told them about 30 or 40 kids. Owen's name just came up, and they had at most a five minute conversation; all they learned from Casey was that Owen knew Larry King. Casey also told them a story they never were able to corroborate, that Owen had been given a job working for Larry King's attorneys but she had not shown up for work.

In late October of 1989, they went to York to talk to Owen. "We went out there not really expecting anything," Ormiston said. It was after hours and they were both tired.

When they introduced themselves and asked Owen if she would talk to them, according to Ormiston, Caradori did not say "I know you were abused by Robert Wadman." What he said was, "We understood you knew Larry King." Other than King, they did not bring up any specific names at that point.

Owen was amazed that they knew of her. She asked if they knew who they were up against, and when Caradori said no, began to talk, naming names. She said she had been "at parties" with Wadman and Andersen. Ormiston said they knew then she wanted to talk, but had not yet decided that they could be trusted. Ormiston and Caradori told her to call when she wanted to talk, and to use the code name "Max." They believed their lines were tapped.

In the next week, Owen told her story to the prison psychiatrist and the warden. A week later she called Caradori and they began taping the interviews. When they came to do the interviews,



they brought photos of people that they had used to interview others previously. The photos were selected from information in Jerry Lowe's report and what Owen had said the week before. They also included photos of unrelated people as a check.

Owen knew about Troy Boner and Danny King, but Caradori had to do some work to locate Boner. Boner then told him where to find King.

Boner Wanted to Talk

Caradori first located Boner's mother, who was living with her mother. Ormiston was with Caradori when they first contacted Boner's mother, the day after Thanksgiving. They drove to her house in Ormiston's car and talked to Boner's mother. Boner's mother sensed that something

was really wrong, and felt that the story of Troy's possible involvement with a child drug and sex ring could very well be the explanation for things she had seen and known of. For that reason, she cooperated with Caradori and contacted Boner. Boner soon called Caradori 4:00 a.m. at Caradori's home. It appeared from the early hour of his call that he wanted to talk. Ormiston accompanied Caradori to pick Boner up, and, knowing that he was ready to talk, they took the video equipment along. They met Boner at a restaurant in Bellevue, where Boner was waiting with his mother's boyfriend. Caradori talked to the boyfriend briefly, told him Troy was safe, that they just wanted to talk to him. According to Ormiston, they said very little at that point because they just wanted an

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Juror's Decision Based On Myth, Not Evidence

by Frances Mendenhall

The jurors who voted unanimously to convict Alisha Owen surely believed they were doing the right thing at the time, but at least some of them based their decision on unproven lies that had been repeated so often in the media that they were believed. Ironically, evidence that would have refuted these lies, such as testimony from Caradori's colleague Karen Ormiston, was never presented in court.

In a World-Herald article June 22, the day after the conviction, juror John C. Hurley was interviewed, and he described his reasons for being persuaded to vote to convict. Hurley was described as the "Last Holdout," and "the juror most inclined to believe Miss Owen."

Hurley cited two items of evidence that he found convincing. The first was "inconsistencies in Miss Owen's accounts that he saw when he examined her videotaped interview with a legislative committee investigator, then checked Miss Owen's descriptions of the same incident to the FBI and to the Douglas County grand jury."

I examined all the evidence from the trial. It took me four days (the jury made its decision in three). I looked for the inconsistencies Mr. Hurley described, but could find none between Owen's taped testimony and her grand jury testimony. What inconsistencies there were were in the FBI summary. Apparently that is what stuck in Mr. Hurley's mind. Also apparently, he and others on the jury swallowed hook line and sinker everything the FBI stated as fact, in spite of the fact that Owen never signed the documents, was not allowed to tape them, was not read her Miranda rights, and was the victim of a raid on her cell and a betrayal by her attorney who was working in collusion with the FBI. Information from FBI sources was probably the least credible of any evidence presented at that trial, but it is likely that few jurors understood this.

The second item of evidence cited by Hurley were letters from Michael Casey. Hurley told the World-Herald that Casey had written something like, "Maybe I should have prepared you a little better before I told Gary Caradori about you." Since Casey was not called as a witness, and since the prosecution never tried to make the case that

he had orchestrated the "hoax," it seemed somewhat irregular that Casey's letters should even have been admitted as evidence. The week after the conviction, I contacted Casey in prison in California and asked him about the letters. He denied ever writing such a thing. A week later in a conversation with Judge Case, I asked the judge how Casey's letters came to be part of the evidence. He was unaware that they had been admitted, and somewhat confused as to why it was important.

Later, when I got to see the evidence, I searched exhaustively for the reference cited by Hurley. I found two letters from Casey, one on a greeting card, the other on pages of a yellow tablet. The phrase he cited was not there. The word "prepared" was not there. I read the letters again and again, trying to find what could have been interpreted the way Hurley took it. It was simply not there.

I interviewed Hurley the day of the hearing for a retrial. He confirmed that he had been quoted accurately and fairly by the World-Herald. I then asked him about the Casey quote, and he recalled it and repeated to me how much it had influenced his thinking. When I told him that the quote was not in the evidence, he was incredulous. Since we were a few steps away from the room where the evidence was kept, I was able to take him to the letters and ask him to find the quote. He could not do it. He could not explain how he had drawn the conclusions he had drawn except to say that there must be another letter somewhere. There was not.

How, then, did Hurley, Timothy Yambor, and others get the idea that Casey "prepared" Owen for the story she was to give to Caradori? Anyone who has been following the story in the World-Herald would probably labor under the same

misconception that Hurley had. It comes down to saturation lies in print. In a quantity so large that even a reasonably fair trial couldn't counteract them.

Cox Cable and SCOLA— They Still Might Get Together

In the last Nebraska Observer we reported that Cox Cable had agreed to pursue ways of adding SCOLA, Creighton's satellite transmitted news programming from 30 countries in 20 languages. After we printed that story, we again called Cox's Mike Kohler to follow up on the plan. While Kohler had not changed his mind, he was expressing frustration at the difficulty he was encountering in getting a channel allocated. This might come as a surprise to an ordinary viewer who in browsing through the channels would most of the time find several channels filled with computer screens rather than real programming. Kohler described some of the situations, such as the Knowledge Network, Channels 16 through 19, which are leased to schools such as UNO and Metro Community College with no requirement that they use them or lose them.

There was, however, another possibility which Kohler is now pursuing. That is unused time on Channel 4, the Health and Wellness Consortium. The Consortium now broadcasts programming between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m., Monday through Friday. Kohler said he would formally ask the

Consortium to allow SCOLA to use the rest of the time.

The Consortium meets next September 18.

Leon Benschoter is vice president for communications at Creighton, and president of the Health and Wellness Consortium. The Observer contacted him for comments. "We have been responsive to other suggestions Cox, for instance we allowed them some of our time for the Omaha Softball Association," Benschoter told the Observer. He felt that it was likely that the consortium would respond positively in some manner to Cox's request.

Benschoter described the Health and Wellness Consortium as open to any group that is interested in promoting well-being and includes UNMC, VA Med Center, Creighton Med Center, Metro Right to Life, American Heart Association, and others. The cost of membership is \$100 per year.

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With 'Omaha Effort' We're In Bed With Felons

by Jeremy Frahm

"The Omaha Effort has been a total failure and we would like Omaha to stop the program and adopt a modern comprehensive recycling program including citizen participation in planning and implementation," say representatives from the noname group and CLEAN (Citizens Leading Environmental Action in Nebraska) after the open forum on the pros and cons of Omaha's recycling program which they organized Sat. Aug. 25 at the First Presbyterian Church 216 So. 34th St. Over 80 percent of the participants in the meeting agreed with the noname group and CLEAN when asked in a poll "who is in favor of dropping the 'Blue Bag' program and switching to drop-off sites throughout the Omaha area until the Watts Trucking contract is up in Dec. of '95?"

At the meeting the representatives from both groups revealed that the "Blue Bag" program has recycled only 2 to 3% of the waste stream by weight at a true cost of \$90.69 a ton. To date the city's four drop-off sites (1515 N 6th St, 85th and Blondo Can Pac, 29th and L near the Stockyards and 114 and West Dodge Rd) have accounted for 22.7% of the recycling. One comment made during the meeting was that by locating so few in such hard to reach places it seemed that the city doesn't want the drop-off sites to work. Nevertheless, 22.7% is a high percentage from 4 drop-off sites. What would the percentage be if the city strategically located many drop-offs throughout the city?

The new contract for the city's recycling calls for a minimum of two drop-offs in the city's five

garbage sectors with a two mile limit between each drop-off. It was recommended by noname, CLEAN and many participants at the meeting that the city eventually move towards total source-separation through a curbside recycling program. Most participants agreed that the main problem with switching to curbside recycling is that the Watts Trucking contract (up in Dec. '95) has no provisions for curbside recycling. This was how the participants in the meeting decided that the drop-off sites should replace the entire program in the poll mentioned above. In Dec. 1995, the city can write up a different contract with Watts and/or another hauler for curbside recycling. Meanwhile, John Watts has personally offered to amend the Watts contract with the city for curbside recycling. The city responded to this offer saying that such an amendment would reflect a major change in the contract and would represent a breach of contract. Contrary to the opinion of the city's legal department, contracts can be re-negotiated and amended as long as both parties are willing to do so. It sounds like the City of Omaha is the only unwilling party when it comes to recycling.

The Omaha Effort isn't even collecting as much newspaper with the blue bag program as it was without it. Under the contract with ENCOR for curbside recycling of newspapers, Omaha was recycling 361.48 tons of newspaper in Jan. of '90' and 352.03 tons of newspaper in Feb. of '90'. Under the "Blue Bag" program, Omaha recycled 191.21 tons of newspaper in June of '91' and 273.6 tons in July of '91. This is a first-rate example of the

inefficiency of the current program. Dorothy Lanphier from CLEAN pointed out during the meeting that the city is getting charged an extra \$18.95 a ton for recyclables going into the sorting facility that the contract does not allow. According to Mrs. Lanphier, the recycling contract specifies that the \$18.95 per ton charge be paid by the city for trash going to the land fill and not that going to the recycling facility itself.

John Anderson, a member of the noname group and CLEAN, compared the city's recycling contract to the Keno contract at the meeting. Mr. Anderson noted that the city's deciding to go with more than one contractor shows its concern with the need for diversity and creativity in the Keno Operation. On the other hand, the city's deciding to go with one contractor, Waste Management, shows its lack of concern for recycling.

Waste Management has held the city's recycling contract for almost a year. At this point chances are pretty good for Waste to get the new contract which lasts until Dec of '95. However, we must remember that Waste Management is not the problem. The problem is a city that is willing to hire a felon to do its recycling. Waste Management and its partner in crime, BFI, (another bidder for the contract and a likely second to Waste Management) together have been forced to pay more than \$450 million in fines over the last decade for violating environmental and antitrust laws. Both companies have more than a thousand citations for dumping violations. Why is the city of Omaha and particularly P.J. Morgan so willing to

jump into bed with Waste Management?

Throughout the entire history of the "Blue Bag" program the city has stressed the low cost of the blue bags and the "I'll take care of it--you don't have to do much" philosophy to the public. The time has come for the citizens of Omaha to realize that this just won't work; the mayor's plan is a dismal failure. If a recycling plan is to work in the City of Omaha it has to involve public input and participation. The citizen's advisory committee is holding its first open forum for public input at the Douglas County Extension Office as the Observer goes to print. If you are angered by Omaha's sham recycling program like so many others, please call the mayor's office (444-5000), the city council and write the Public Pulse with your displeasure. If you want to organize on this issue with a local citizen action group, meet with the noname group at the First Presbyterian Church, 216 South 35th Street every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Schwarzenegger Gives Kids a Raw Deal

by Colman McCarthy

WASHINGTON—Arnold Schwarzenegger is too late. He was on television the other night babble-chatting with Jay Leno and announcing that he yearns to be a positive influence for children.

Physically fit is the message from the former Mr. Universe turned Conan the Barbarian turned Terminator I and II turned Chairman of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. The 1990s, he declares, will be "the Fitness Decade," with iron-pumping Arnold flexing his every bicep for American youth.

Before telling kids how to hop, skip and jump in the '90s, Schwarzenegger ought to explain why he was telling them in the '80s to shoot, blow up and kill. Here was a one-note actor who sought and won roles in some of Hollywood's most violence-saturated films, with the brutality and sordidness of killing people presented as tough-guy chic. Gun play is fun play. After a decade of presenting himself as Mr. Dirty, it's too late, or at least too soon, to be playing Mr. Clean.

The same week Schwarzenegger was flexing his ego on the "Tonight Show," a cable channel ran his 1986 film "Raw Deal". The final 10

minutes, a climax of the stupefying banality that came before, began with him lovingly fondling the handguns and rifles that he was about to use to blow out the brains of about 20 bad guys.

Who does Schwarzenegger think watches his simulated gore, if not large numbers of impressionable children? Does he see no link between his roles as a gunman and head-basher and the real-life homicide rates that are at record levels in American cities? The actor who now wants to make kids be physically fit worked for a decade to show them how to be morally unfit.

Schwarzenegger, who now frolics at the White House and Camp David with fellow athlete George Bush, has spent part of the past year touring the country talking to governors about fitness. It's a publicity binge that fulfills the plan he laid out in 1980 when interviewed by Studs Terkel in "American Dream": "When I was a small boy (in Austria), my dream was not to be big physically, but big in a way that everybody listens to me when I talk, that I'm a very important person, that people recognize me and see me as something special. I had a big need for being singled out."

Schwarzenegger's raw cravings to be a big shot are matched by his other zeal, for cash-grabbing. He told Terkel, "I am a strong believer

in Western philosophy, the philosophy of success, of getting rich, it's a beautiful philosophy." That suited his career plans for the 1980s. In the '90s, Schwarzenegger apparently believes he can get away with a quickie role change. He has satisfied his gluttony for fame and dollars. Now it's on to a new career of being a role model for the kiddies, and let's forget how he climbed to the top. In the current issue of "Muscle and Fitness", Schwarzenegger, as he did with Terkel in 1980, lays out the plan: "There is an up-side to being a role model in that you make money, you make movies, you have great ego gratification, but with it also comes, whether you want it or not, a responsibility to those who have made you a role model."

The heavy weight of responsibility: Yes, Conan the Humanitarian is ready to bust his quads to lift it high. To date, the only role Schwarzenegger qualifies for is that of a Hollywood opportunist who gets ahead by being violent on the screen and hustling the money off. He told Terkel that some observers have thought "I was cold, selfish. Later they found out that's not the case. After I achieve my goal, I can be Mr. Nice Guy. You know what I mean?"

We do.

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Government Plots to Eliminate Family Farms

Jeff Kirkpatrick

The United States is currently going through another in a series of seemingly endless "farm crises". Indeed there is good reason for you to view 1991 as just another in a series of farm depressions. The problems facing family farmers and rural communities have been chronic, not acute. But what many people, even many farmers, don't realize is that this crisis has been the result of a long-standing and very successful governmental policy designed to reduce the number of family farmers in America.

The roots of this policy extend back to the 1940s when corporate, government and academic policy-makers were planning the post-war economy. There were a number of reasons why corporations thought it would be desirable to reduce the number of family farmers.

1. It would encourage capital—and input—intensive methods of agriculture. Weed control is an example. Weeds can be killed through the use of hoes and cultivators or by chemicals. Mechanical means can be labor-intensive and don't result in profits for DuPont, but if farms are consolidated then herbicides become the only way to control weeds.

2. This massive relocation of people from rural to urban areas would create a huge pool of hard-working, cheap labor for the industrial boom that was taking place.

3. It would enable large corporations to better control ag production and the political process by eliminating economically and politically independent farmers.

This policy has always been motivated by bias against farmers and rural communities (as well as physical labor). Many policy makers viewed farmers as "hicks" who would be much happier in an urban community. Earl Butz, Ford's Secretary of Agriculture, once remarked that the trend toward fewer farmers was good because, "It would free farmers to do something productive with their lives."

The strategy was summarized by the Committee for Economic Development in a 1962 report where they called for "a program, such as we are recommending here, to induce excess resources (primarily people) to move rapidly out of agriculture." Some policy makers went so far as to call for a reduction from the 1950 number of 5 million farmers down to a mere 100,000. (That is not to say that only 100,000 workers would be employed in farming; poorly paid farm workers would still be needed.) It was a radical plan, but it has been largely successful. We currently have about 600,000 full-time farmers in this country but the Congressional Budget Office projects we will lose 500,000 farmers during the five years of the 1991 Farm Bill.

The decimation of family farming in America has been an impressive accomplishment, especially since to accomplish it the parity farm program had to be demolished. The parity farm program, passed in 1949, was the culmination of Depression era farm programs. It consisted of three main features.

1. The Commodity Credit Corporation made loans to farmers whenever crop prices dropped below the cost of production. The loans used crops as collateral and enabled farmers to hold on to their production until prices came back up. Once prices came back up, farmers sold their crops and paid off their loans, with interest.

2. A supply management system regulated farm production. If production rose above the demand, farmers were told not to plant part of their land. Since government storage of surpluses is expensive, this saved taxpayers' money. Farmers didn't like cutting back on production, but the program guaranteed them a fair price.

3. A national grain reserve was created. When drought and other natural disasters caused prices to rise above a predetermined level, government-owned grain was released onto the market, driving prices back down to normal levels.

This parity program stabilized crop prices for farmers and food prices for consumers. Because of the inventory management features, it cost the government very little to operate. Farmers made their money from the marketplace. In fact the CCC actually made money on storable commodities until 1952 by collecting interest on its commodity loans. From 1933 to 1953 the number of new farmers increased, soil and water conserva-

tion practices increased, and overall farm debt declined. You can see the obvious problems this caused.

Stabilized grain prices prevented grain corporations and speculators from benefiting from large fluctuations in the market. Supply management limited the potential for pesticide and fertilizer sales. Farmers with stable incomes were less likely to borrow money from banks or insurance companies.

In 1952 Eisenhower was elected president and he and his Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson set out to turn agriculture over to large agribusiness corporations. The names have changed over the years, but the policy has remained remarkably consistent. Nixon and Ford turned to Earl Butz who was Benson's Assistant Ag Secretary; George Bush turned to Clayton Yeutter, who served under Butz.

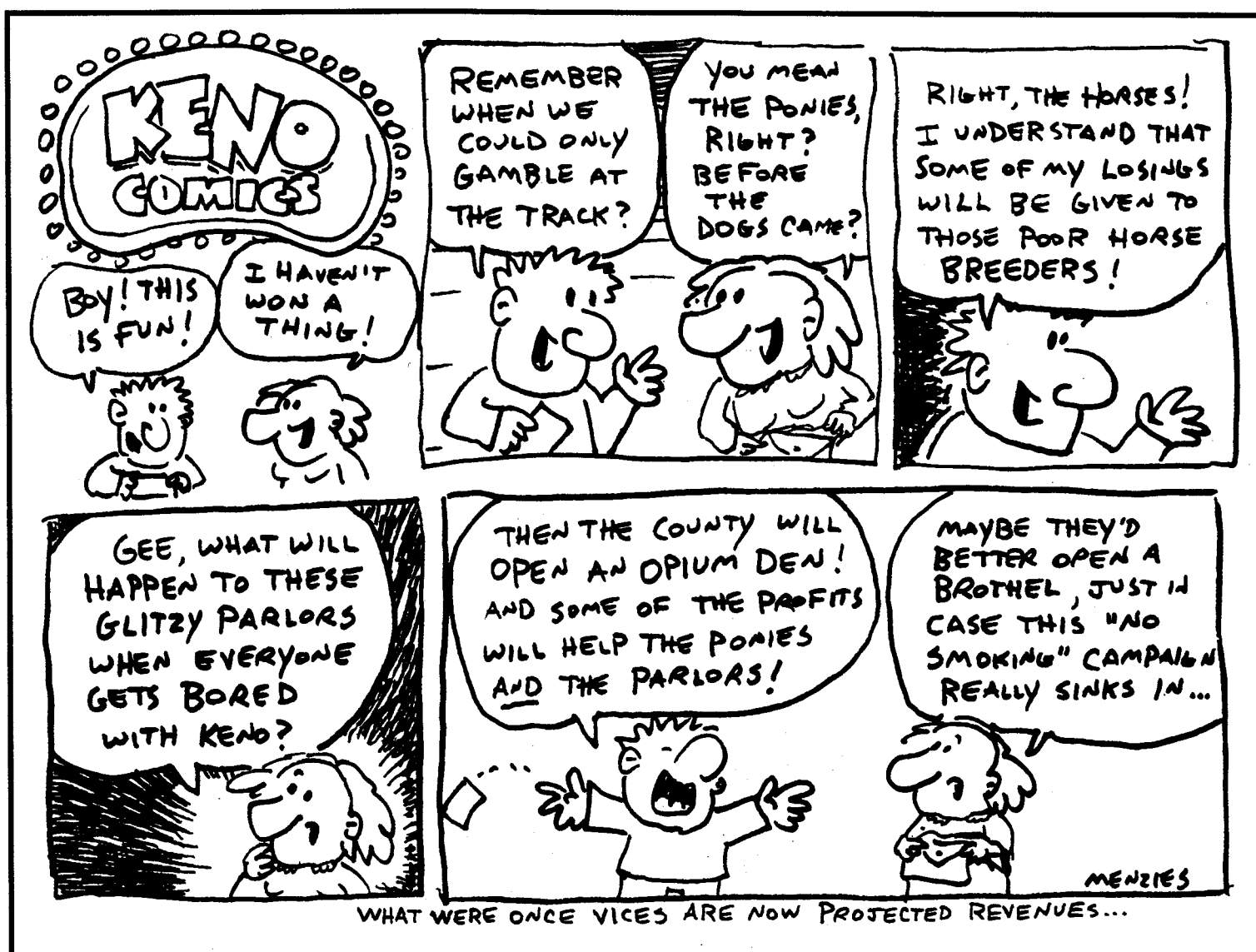
Because the parity farm program was so cheap and effective a round about strategy was necessary to destroy it. The programs were made more complicated to lessen farmer support. They were made more expensive to lessen political support. But the key factor was to reduce farm income to "move excess resources out of agriculture."

A key change was made in 1981 with the

introduction of "deficiency payments". CCC loan rates were lowered well below the cost of production; then the difference was made up by direct payments to farmers called deficiency payments. For enemies of farm programs this change had several advantages. It made farmers recipients of direct subsidies which were easy to attack. It pushed up the cost of the farm program to unacceptably high levels. Also, by lowering the market price far enough, farmers would receive less and less income at the same time that their government subsidies were increasing.

In 1986 the U.S. government spent \$26 billion on farm programs at the same time hundreds of thousands of family farmers were losing their farms. During the decade of the 1980s, USDA figures show that net farm income was less than it was during the Dirty Thirties of the Great Depression. It is no accident that the 83 most rural counties in Nebraska all lost population during the last decade. The 1990 Farm Bill is basically a continuation of the 1985 Farm Bill, though it is a little more complicated and commodity loan rates are a little lower.

Next time you drive through a rural area look for the abandoned farmsteads and the boarded up storefronts on Main Street. They are a monument to what a little planning can do.



Milk Prices Down 30%, But Not at the Checkout

Colman McCarthy

BARNEVELD, NY — Ana Pereira, who runs a 180-cow dairy farm with her husband Luis, took a rare break last month to visit Washington. She had one message for public officials: "I'm fighting for the milk price to go up. If it doesn't, they're putting us out of business. Everything my husband and I worked for is going to go down the drain."

The drain—the economic one—has already taken a heavy flow. Between 4,000 and 5,000 farmers are leaving dairying annually, with the current prices—\$10 per hundredweight, the lowest in 13 years—pushing the exit doors wider.

No shortage of groups and factions are offering solutions, including congressional agriculture committees, the Department of Agriculture, the National Family Farm Coalition, the National Farmers Union and lobbyists representing processors and retailers. Mrs. Pereira, who is in her late 20s and joins her husband routinely working 14 hours a day seven days a week for an income currently below production costs, argues that while they milk the cows, someone is milking them.

Small family farmers, losing as much as 30 percent of their income in the past year, are seeking legislative relief that would give them \$15 per hundredweight, about the price in late 1989. This would be a federally backed support level—not a giveaway subsidy but a regulated protection that would include production limits

aimed at keeping supply and demand in balance.

The issue is whether the public cares about saving family farms or would prefer to get its milk from conglomerate dairies. The Pereiras in Barneveld milk about 100 cows a day. Like most farmers in the rural Northeast, they invest themselves personally in all operations of the farm—from planting and harvesting the corn to feeding calves. At the opposite end of the business, factory farm herds of enormous size—1,000 cows or more—are often milked around the clock, with little that is personal or humane in the operation. These are herds of cash cows, animals bred for high production. The USDA reports a 38 percent per cow increase in milk between 1974 and 1988, while the number of cows has declined by some one million to 8.5 million.

That family farmers are losing out is of small concern to those who champion a market solution to the problem. In the Aug. 7 Wall Street Journal Daniel Oliver, a chairman of the Federal Trade Commission in the Reagan administration, argues that "milk regulation is a grade A government failure," Oliver suggests that only a few visionaries like himself understand that federal price controls keep on "paralyzing the market system in the milk industry."

In the safe pastures of theoretical discourse where Daniel Oliver grazes, the "market solution" prevails as a sacred cow. Money is the prime

value, not people: If family farmers are driven off the land, so what? Let the former producers of food get food stamps.

In Congress, the Family Farm Protection Act is being advanced by Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee and someone who believes that the hardest working people in the dairy industry—citizens like the Pereiras—deserve governmental protection.

The legislation, which proposes fair price supports as well as controls on production, would likely increase the retail cost of milk by a few

cents a gallon. This is a small imposition on consumers of milk. If public anger is to be roused, it should not be vented on the family farmers but on the profiteering processors and retailers where revenues are reaching record highs while those of milk producers sink. That consumers have not seen a 30 percent decrease in milk prices at the checkout counter is no accident. Part of the dairy industry insists on taking the cream off the top, while the most crucial part—the family farmers—keeps getting skimmed.

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All Work, No Pay Makes Fewer Family Dairies

by Colman McCarthy

BARNEVELD, NY if we had an endangered species list for people, Luis and Ana Pereira would be near the top. They are dairy farmers.

Their work of tending a herd of 180 Holsteins pastured and fed from 195 acres of fertile farmland in the Mohawk Valley of Central New York state will earn them about \$16,000 this year. They rise at 5 a.m. for a workday that often ends with dinner at 10 p.m., with two milkings, several feedings of calves and cows, loading and spreading half a ton of manure, planting or harvesting the corn, plus bookkeeping, in between. Those are the light days, with no sick cows to tend, broken machinery to fix or fences to mend.

If computed on an hourly wage scale, the Pereiras, who are in their late 20s and have two boys, 4 and 5, would be making about half the minimum wage. They estimate that their gross income this summer is \$8,000 a month lower than last year. Then, they were able to meet their \$2,000 a month rent for the farm and were debt-free. Now they are into a bank for \$30,000.

The Pereira's story is part of the national catastrophe this year for dairy farmers, whose collective income is expected to fall \$3 billion this year, according to the Department of Agriculture. Milk prices have fallen from \$15 per 100 lbs. to about \$10, the lowest in 13 years. New York, third in milk production after Wisconsin and California, may see as many as 1,000 of its 11,000 dairy farmers forced to forsake the land in the next year, double the number that declared bankruptcy in 1990. More than 800 farmers have quit dairying in Wisconsin this year.

For those who won't make it, the exodus will be to towns and cities where, with luck, jobs can be found. Without it, there will be the charity of relatives or homeless shelters. They will be called economic failures, when in fact it was a combination of failed economic and political policies beyond their control that doomed them. For much of this year, Congress and the Department of Agriculture have been proposing programs to relieve what one farm state congressman calls "financial stress."

It's more like financial chaos. For the Pereiras,

who are sliding into the swelling ranks of the working poor, the tension is between the little money they earn and the large amounts of rent, utilities, machinery, veterinarians, family bills they pay out. No money is available to improve the herd, nor is there time for a normal family life. The last occasion the couple had a day off was 10 months ago for a family wedding in Massachusetts.

This is the third small family dairy farm I've visited in the past two years, the others being in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Each time, I came away wondering what other Americans work as tirelessly as dairy farmers, and what others keep on coming up with the stamina and resources to overcome the unavoidable. Vagaries of price supports, production quotas, regional competition and legislative proposals are burdens enough, on top of the daily exhaustion of manual labor and the managerial strains of operating a small independent business. None of this is anyone's model for a stable family life.

Dairy farming ought to be one of the most satisfying ways to earn a living: working the land, self-autonomy, caring for the gentlest animals and supplying the public with what most of it—not all—considers a healthy food. Dairy farms have been passed down the generations like heirlooms.

While herding in their cows the other afternoon to the holding before milking, the Pereiras had no illusions that they were raising their boys to take over the farm someday "We would like our children to do this but the way things are going we don't see it. We want them to have an education, to go through school, work hard at it and get a better job than doing this."

The Pereiras, both immigrants from Portugal, are oddities in dairy farming. They are young, well below the average mid-50s age of dairy people. And they came into the business on their own, without parents to leave them a farm or herd. They have been in Barneveld less than two years. Without a fast rise in prices for their milk, they wonder if it is better to leave now with small losses, not larger ones later. They would ride out the crisis, except what is there to ride on?

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Baird-McNair Abortion Debate Promises to be Lively

Some months back this paper advocated a first step toward arriving at a sustainable national consensus on abortion. The first step was that pro-life people affirm the importance of preventing pregnancy (in whatever way was acceptable to the individuals), and that pro-choice people affirm the worth of the fetus.

There has been some progress. Pro-choice spokesperson Frances Kissling, founder of Catholics for a Free Choice, wrote such an essay acknowledging fetal value (although not with an absolute status) and couching abortion in the language of tragedy rather than simply as a "choice" as in chocolate or vanilla. In a television and newspaper ads, the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL) has initiated a campaign to reduce the rate of abortion by expanding women's choices, not restricting them. "America: Our goal should be to make abortion less necessary—not more dangerous, not more difficult," read the headline in a full-page newspaper ad.

But so far, no movement from the pro-life side, who consistently fail to advocate sane methods of pregnancy prevention beyond "just say no." We have been watching with special interest a group called Feminists for Life of America. These women claim that the real historical feminist values rejected abortion. And they back up their claim to a point, even though they have not documented one feminist who favored criminalizing abortion. Where they fall short of the feminist tradition is in the area of contraception. Surely the right to limit one's fertility has always been a bedrock principle

for feminists. But Feminists for Life so far have refused to take contraceptive education out of the closet or to demand greater contraceptive availability. Not surprisingly, they fail completely to address the reality that contraceptive failure is associated with as many as half of all abortions performed.

One of the driving forces of Feminists for Life, Rachel McNair, will debate one of the most unyielding advocates of abortion rights in Omaha on September 26. The abortion rights person is Bill Baird, whose history in reproductive issues goes back 25 years. Early in his career, Baird was arrested for passing out contraceptives; it was illegal to give contraceptives out to unmarried people at the time. Later Baird was to win three cases before the Supreme Court related to reproductive privacy. Baird serves his cause with intelligence and zeal.

McNair, although younger than Baird, surely is his equal in commitment. Before she was involved in fighting abortion, she made her mark in the peace movement. She is also a single mother, which should in and of itself command respect for a position on abortion.

McNair is just as articulate as Baird, and perhaps even more feisty. This may be the most spirited exchange on the abortion controversy yet.

The debate will take place on September 26 at UNO, in the ballroom of the Milo Bail Student Center, 7:30 p.m. Tickets may be purchased from the university box office, first floor, northeast corner, Milo Bail Student Center. Admission is \$5 for the public, \$3 for students, faculty, and staff.

Shift in Appropriations Decides Farm Policy

by Chuck Hassebrook

Reprinted from the August Center for Rural Affairs Newsletter

The fight over farm policy always draws a lot of attention every four years when a farm bill is fully debated in Congress. That was last year.

But the real fight over farm policy frequently takes place *after* the farm bill is passed. That's when the United States Department of Agriculture starts writing the rules and regulations that actually affect the way the law is implemented at the local level. And that's when Congress decides, as part of the appropriations process, how much to actually spend on each part of the farm program.

Last year's victories can easily turn into this year's defeats if you aren't there when they write the rules and decide how to spend the money. That's when you get to the marrow of the issue.

Here's an update on just a few of the battles going on behind the scenes now, a year after the big farm bill debate.

The LISA Research Program: A Unique Experiment

The Low Input Sustainable Research Program (LISA) is the federal government's most innovative agricultural research program. Unfortunately, some of its most significant and worthy features have been called into question by some within USDA in recent months. LISA is a *competitive grants* program, meaning researchers submit proposals for review and the best are chosen for funding.

Among the most positive attributes of the LISA approach are:

- Farmers and representatives of sustainable agriculture organizations serve along with representatives of USDA and land grant colleges on the panels that review and rank proposals, and on the regional councils that administer the program and make final funding recommendations to USDA.

- The program primarily supports research and extension projects in which farmers are directly involved, often conducting research on their own farms.

- Research and extension (education) efforts are combined in the LISA program. Most projects involve both research and efforts to disseminate research information to farmers.

- LISA has a *decentralized governance structure*. Regional administrative councils and technical committees, whose members are appointed at the regional level, administer the program and decide which proposals are recommended for funding.

- LISA administrative guidelines explicitly include *strengthening the family farm system* among the program's goals, making it unique among federally funded research programs. Proposals are evaluated in part on their relevance to this and other goals of the program.

But some of these features have been called into question in recent months as USDA has drafted guidelines that merge LISA with new extension programs created by the farm bill. Several of these provisions have generated contro-

versy within the USDA Extension Service in Washington, with some officials urging their retention while others have been calling for basic changes.

For example, some propose to give USDA Washington officials control over who chairs the regional administrative councils, and discretion to remove the family farm objectives from the goals of the program. Another proposed change would divide research and extension projects among separate review committees, eliminating the combined research and extension feature that has made the program uniquely effective in engaging farmers in research and getting research results into farmers' hands.

The Center and Sustainable Agriculture Coalition are fighting to keep the family farm objectives, farmer involvement, decentralized control and integration of research and extension that have made LISA a model for agricultural research.

Appropriations

The annual appropriation process is grinding forward in the U.S. Congress and, as usual, it includes a mixture of good news and disappointments. The process is not complete. The Senate Appropriation Committee bill has not yet gone before the full Senate as this article went to press and differences between the House and Senate bills will have to be worked out in conference committee. Yet, some clear trends are emerging.

On the bright side, it appears that there will be more money next year for Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) loans, and that new funds will be made available for research on technology assessment and rural development.

On a less positive note, it appears that many of the new sustainable agriculture initiatives of the 1990 farm bill will be poorly funded or receive no money at all.

More Direct Loans from the FmHA

Proponents of increased direct loan funds for the FmHA won a small victory in the House budget. The House increased direct *farm ownership* loan funds to \$46.5 million for 1992, almost \$10 million more than either the Bush Administration requested or Congress provided in the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act passed last year. Direct *operating* loan funds were also increased to \$900 million from \$409 million.

These increases will not significantly close the gap between what is needed in the direct loan program and what is appropriated, but they at least help. Hopefully, the Senate will go even further to increase appropriations for the direct loan programs.

The House budget also appropriates \$509 million for the *guaranteed* farm ownership program and \$2.6 billion to the *guaranteed* operating loan program.

Sustainable Agriculture Research and Extension

The news was not quite so good for the Low Input Sustainable Agriculture Research Program

(LISA), though it could have been worse. Both the House and Senate propose to fund LISA at \$6.7 million, the same as this year. That accounts for less than one half of one percent of federal funding for agriculture research and extension. And neither the House nor Senate appropriated anything for the Sustainable Agriculture Extension Program authorized by the 1990 farm bill to train extension staff in sustainable agriculture and expand extension sustainable agriculture programs.

New funds for research and extension were largely directed by both houses to the National Research Initiative's (NRI) Competitive Grants Program. The House would increase its funding to \$99 million and the Senate to \$102 million, up from \$76 million this year. The NRI emphasizes basic scientific research relevant to agriculture, but not directly applicable on farms. The 1990

Farm Bill directs that the NRI emphasize research consistent with sustainable agriculture, defined to embrace both family farm and environmental objectives. But those emphases have not been apparent to date. Hopefully, the appropriations bill may help to correct that.

An appropriations bill in either the House or Senate is always accompanied by a "report" that explains in more detail how the legislative body really expects the money to be used. The language in these "reports" can be very important.

The Senate report language directs that funds appropriated for NRI be spent consistent with the purposes spelled out in the farm bill, which include environmental and rural community oppor-

Continued on next page

Ag Appropriations: LISA Loses, the Rest Undecided

from the Center for Rural Affairs.

Both houses of Congress have passed appropriations bills, with work remaining to be done in the conference committee on the areas where there was not agreement.

Areas of agreement

The bad news is that neither the House nor Senate appropriated an increase in funding for the Low Input Sustainable Agriculture Research Program (LISA) nor any funds for the new sustainable agriculture extension program. LISA funding will remain at \$6.7 million. The good news is that both bills include \$4 million for research on markets, trade and policy, including technology assessment. Technology assessment is needed to identify research directions supportive of the farm bill's research purposes and family farm and rural community opportunities. The Senate bill also directs the \$100 million National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program to emphasize research consistent with the research purposes.

Still To Be Resolved

Nebraska has a representative, Sen. Kerrey, on the Ag committee, which will iron out the remaining differences in the next few weeks. The appropriate staff person to contact in Kerrey's office is Tim Galvin.

Research to Support Family Farming. In addition to appropriating money, the conference committee will prepare a report explaining how it intends the money to be spent. The Center favors report language telling the USDA to develop guidelines, procedures and technology assessments to ensure that federally funded research supports family farming and is consistent with the "research purposes" articulated by the farm bill. Those purposes include increasing opportunities in rural com-

munities and protecting the environment.

Water Quality Incentives Program. The Center supports \$10 million for the Water Quality Incentives Program, which provides incentive payments to farmers to implement water quality protection plans. This program was authorized by the 1990 farm bill and presents a more positive alternative to strict regulatory approaches.

Wetlands Reserve Program. The Center supports funds for the Wetlands Reserve Program. The program pays for farmers' easements that protect wetlands for wildlife. This program is good for wildlife and farmers, who will get reimbursed for protecting particularly valuable wetlands. The Senate would provide \$91 million, the House nothing.

Organic Certification Program. The Center supports the Senate appropriation of \$120,000 to establish a USDA program to certify organically produced food. This program provides new opportunities for farmers to respond to consumers' concerns about how food is produced, and to earn a price premium in the process.

Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) Funds. The Center supports the Senate proposal for funding FmHA Direct Farm Ownership Loans (\$87 million versus \$46.5 million in the House bill.) Direct Farm Ownership Loans are the part of the FmHA loan program aimed at providing opportunities for beginning farmers and other family farmers to gain a modest foothold in the land market. However, on the issue of financing sales from the FmHA land inventory, the Center supports the House bill. The House would provide \$250 million for credit sales, while the Senate would provide nothing. These funds would be used primarily to assist beginning farmers in buying land from the FmHA inventory or property.

Farm Policies

Continued from previous page

tunity objectives. In addition, both the House and Senate direct that 4 million NRI dollars be allocated to research on markets, trade and policy. Senate report language says that a portion of this should be spent on "technology assessment," which would help identify research consistent with sustainable agriculture.

The \$4 million for markets trade and policy will also be used for research on rural development, and according to Senate language, research on markets for the products of sustainable agriculture. As one of six research areas in a \$100 million program, this category should receive more than \$4 million. Nonetheless, that \$4 million looks good compared to current funding—which is zero.

And a Few Other Big Issues

Funding was scant for several other of the new farm bill environmental initiatives. The Water Quality Incentives Program, which would provide incentive payments to farmers to implement water quality protection plans, would be funded at \$3.5 million by both the House and Senate. While an important first step, this would allow enrollment of less than one percent of the 10 million acre goal provided in the farm bill.

The Senate also proposes \$120,000 for establishing a national certification program for organically grown foods. The House provides nothing. On the other hand, the Senate provides \$91 million for a Wetlands Reserve Program to pay farmers for longterm easements to protect wetlands, but the House provides nothing.

LETTERS

Slave Master Brand of Justice

Dear Editor:

In 1955 a Negro girl charged outstanding pillars of the white male community with raping her. These men were bankers, publishers and landowners who had both power and prestige. During the proceedings these men were the talk of the town. They would sit in the local bar and barber-shop bragging on how they had such a great time taking liberties with a Negro girl.

In 1991 Alisha Owen testified before the Franklin Committee Senate Investigation Committee that she had been sexually exploited by prominent Omaha men. In both cases the black sambo mentality was present. When the little colored girl opened her mouth, the men didn't have to worry. They were the law and they owned the judge. After the trial the little girl was flogged for the dubious offense of attempting to harm the reputations of these outstanding citizens. Alisha Owen got nine to fifteen years.

Alisha Owen's sentence demonstrates that the oppressed have no rights, that the oppressor is bound to respect. The slave master brand of justice cannot serve the interest of the slave. The slave master can only serve the interest of the financiers of the institution of racism.

The question becomes, who has profited from Alisha Owen's conviction and who is responsible for the sexual exploitation of children? Children must have the right to discuss being raped without fear of reprisal or retribution. The conviction of Alisha only serves notice that if children talk about being raped, the same thing that happened to Alisha is going to happen to them.

In 1955 a Negro boy named Emmett Till was mangled and murdered for whistling at a white woman. Those responsible for this crime were let off the hook. In 1991 Alisha Owen faces fifteen years in prison for blowing the whistle on white men. Her skin color may be white but her crime is black.

Melvin Delk

Letters Needed to Request Medocal Help For Paul Bonacci

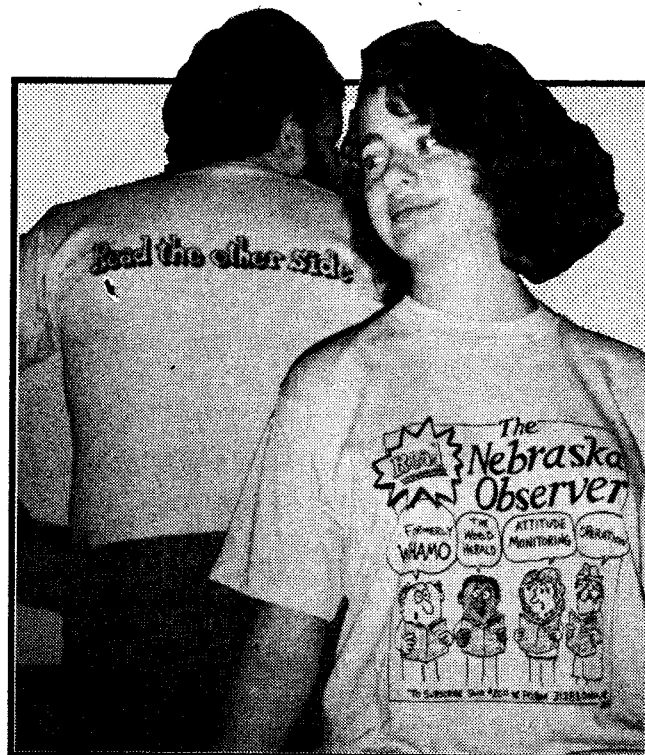
Dear Editor:

Paul Bonacci's (a victim witness in the Franklin case) next parole hearing will be held in October. Although Paul has been a model prisoner there is a strong indication that his parole will be denied. The reason given: he needs more therapy.

This is a joke since there is no therapy available for Multiple Personality Disorder at the Lincoln Correctional Center. Three psychiatrists who have evaluated Paul have diagnosed him as suffering from MPD. His physical health is deteriorating as a result of not being treated for this disorder (this happens in 75 percent of MPD patients) and one of the psychiatrists has publicly stated that he needs to be treated immediately by an expert or the results could be fatal. His lawyer and family are diligently seeking a safe facility that can provide Paul with the necessary treatment at the time of his release. You can help Paul by writing the Nebraska Board of Parole and requesting that he be granted parole in order that he can get the help he desperately needs. Paul's recovery and testimony is vital to the on-going investigation in the Franklin sexual abuse case which has far too many unanswered questions. Please write the
NEBRASKA BOARD OF PAROLE,
P.O. BOX 94754,
STATEHOUSE STATION,
LINCOLN, NE 68509.

Thank you,
Steph Gruber

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Ormiston Recalls Caradori's Investigation

Continued from page 1

unbiased statement. They said they believed he had been involved in a ring of sex, drugs, and alcohol with underage kids, and that they were working with the legislature to get better laws and better law enforcement. If he would come forward, he could help other kids. They also mentioned the possibility of civil suits, but no dollar amounts.

There Was No Briefing Phone Call With Owen

They picked up Boner on a Saturday, and taped Saturday and Sunday. Caradori and Boner left town and flew in his private plane to Texas on Sunday. Boner gave his taped statement with no contact with Alisha Owen. They went straight to the Residence Inn that morning, where Boner was checked in. There were no phone calls.

After Boner's tape was completed, and with the information Boner gave them, they found Danny King. Boner and Caradori went to King's door to pick him up, and the three went to Lincoln to Caradori's office. Ormiston was there working late. They picked her and the equipment up and went to the motel to record.

Ormiston recalled that Danny King was very fearful. She recalled him saying something like what he told the grand jury. He said to them: "You

and Karen are nice people, so I'm going to save you a lot of trouble, this whole thing is nothing but one big lie and scam to get money." Caradori, she recalled, did say "I know you're scared." Finally King began to tell his story. Within a short time it came out that he had very recently had his life threatened by Larry King who had shoved him against a car. Ormiston believed that already the word was out that someone had talked.

Ormiston remembered a particular photo that King identified. It was a picture of Deward Finch, whom Owen had identified as a man she had had sex with at the Starlite Motel. "That's Chucky," said King, identifying him as a man he had had sex with. Ormiston said "Chucky" was the name they used for such occasions.

After that the tapes were seen by others. "When we turned the tapes over to law enforcement," Ormiston said, "the s___ hit the fan, the word was on the streets." She and Caradori thought they (the boys) should get out of town till Caradori returned from a vacation he was planning in Hawaii. They took the boys to a rural setting in Oshkosh, Neb.

Ormiston recalled Boner and King stayed in Oshkosh with some acquaintances of hers. The boys were bored with farm life. They were averse to such work as chopping wood for money because they were used to getting a lot of money for

sex.

Recanting, Then Trying to Return to Original Story

In March, Boner recanted his story. When he testified to the grand jury that summer he told them the whole thing was a scam to make money.

Ormiston and Caradori were later to testify to the grand jury. The questioning was brief, only a day total, much too short to account for the volumes of information that they had turned over to that body. Ormiston said they had given them four or five volumes in addition to a box of evidence. None of the questions asked revealed much knowledge of the material. The box of evidence was missing. The questions were superficial. Ormiston, who was present for Caradori's testimony, recalled. If Caradori had not taken the initiative himself to explain things, the jurors probably would not have asked very many important questions.

Ormiston is especially bothered by the treatment that the grand jury gave the videotapes. "They said there were suspicious breaks in the tapes," she said. The grand jury report had concluded that Caradori had edited the tapes or led the witnesses. "But every break was explained by Gary. I question whether the grand jury saw

the original tapes."

Caradori was killed July 11. Ormiston was one of many contacted by Boner the same day. He called her at home, wanting to go back on record to recant the recantation. R.J. Nebe, another Caracorp employee, brought Boner to Ormiston's office, but he was unwilling to make a videotaped statement. "He was there about one hour," said Ormiston, "and he was real nervous." Ormiston recalled that Boner's fiancé had just had a baby. "The guy just felt so bad," she recalled. "He was torn between being extremely frightened and feeling real guilty."

They went to Sen. Loran Schmit's office. Boner wanted to change his story back, but was unwilling to do so with his current attorney (Marc Delman), and required a new attorney before he would go on record. They tried to line one up, but it was after five and they did not complete anything. Boner left, without going on record to change his contact with him after that.

Caradori's widow testified at Alisha Owen's trial that Boner told her he had tried to change his story back to the original version with the FBI, but they would not allow him to do it. She said she confirmed that Boner had been in the FBI office in an encounter with one of the agents at the Caracorp office two days later.

'Dying Isn't What It Used to Be'

Washington Voters May Choose Aid-In-Dying

Tom Banse

OLYMPIA, WA. November's election, with its "Death with Dignity" initiative, could make the state the first place in the world to legalize doctor-assisted suicide.

The citizens' initiative is attracting worldwide attention and significant financial support from out of state.

It is Initiative 119, or the "Death with Dignity" as its backers call it.

If approved by voters, a patient diagnosed by two doctors as having less than six months to live could ask for help in dying. Doctors would be legally permitted to give a lethal injection or leave a deadly overdose of drugs at the patient's bedside.

The initiative would also clarify state law on "living wills" to specify that feeding and hydration tubes could be withdrawn from the hopelessly ill if they or their families request it.

Those pushing for formal legalization of physician-aided dying have been emboldened by the repeated refusal of juries to punish doctors who have engaged in the practice or ordinary citizens who have carried out "mercy killings".

The latest case occurred July 26 in Rochester, N.Y., when a Monroe County grand jury declined to indict Dr. Timothy Quill, who publicly admitted to helping a terminally ill patient commit suicide.

Quill wrote in the New England Journal of Medicine last March that he prescribed barbiturates to a longtime patient in the final stages of

leukemia, and told her how many it would take to end her life.

In Washington state, backers of Initiative 119 collected 223,000 signatures last year to place the question before the state legislature. Lawmakers avoided the issue, never voting on the initiative, so under Washington law, it goes to the voters on the November general election ballot.

Medical ethicists and doctors around the country are keenly interested to see how voters decide on the right-to-die question.

Dr. Thomas McCormick, a senior lecturer in medical history and ethics at the University of Washington, said the state referendum is "groundbreaking". No other state or nation has legalized physician-assisted suicide, he said.

According to the professor, "active euthanasia" is practiced openly only in the Netherlands, where prosecutors have agreed to look the other way.

National medical associations for the most part oppose active euthanasia, but the "Death with Dignity" initiative is splitting local medical groups. This spring, an informal survey of Washington State Medical Association members found doctors evenly divided on the ballot measure.

Some doctors argue it is time to return to patients some control over life-sustaining medical technology. Others believe assisting patients to kill themselves violates the Hippocratic Oath, which says doctors should only be involved in activities that help and heal.

"We see no reason for Washington to become the first state in the world where active euthanasia is allowed," said Dr. Peter McGough, a Seattle family physician speaking on behalf of the state medical association. "Every doctor I know could tell a story of a dying patient they wished they could have done more for."

But McGough continued to say there are "far more stories" of uncertain diagnoses, of patients who make decisions about their treatment when depressed or frightened, and of patients without health insurance who are worried about bills and "financial ruin for their families."

"Into this world of medical uncertainty, physician-assisted suicide would bring its own certain solution," McGough concluded.

Ralph Mero, president of the Hemlock Society of Washington, argues aid-in-dying "is already a secret and clandestine practice" among medical practitioners. Initiative 119 would simply bring it "under the protection of law and establish clear safeguards to prevent any abuse of patients," he said.

"Dying isn't what it used to be," he said.

Mero believes that terminally ill patients need the reassurance that they can die on their own terms and in a "dignified" way.

On that point, Mero is backed up by cancer patient Goldie Nickson of Federal Way, WA. In emotional testimony to legislators, Nickson said that should her pain become "excruciating and with no hope of any improvement, I would wish

that I would have the aid of my doctor in dying." Nickson said she wants her three sons to know she had "death with dignity as I have lived my life with dignity."

This summer, the state nurses association switched from official opposition to a neutral stance on the initiative after a significant portion of the membership protested. The "right-to-die" question has split other professions as well, including religion, where one finds Clergy for Yes on 119 and Clergy for No on 119.

Money is pouring into the election war chests of supporters and opponents of the initiative. Proponents have raised about \$700,000—a very high amount this early in the process for a state initiative. Opponents are playing catch-up. They have raised slightly less than \$100,000.

Proponents are optimistic that voters will approve Initiative 119 based on the results of early opinion polling. Citizens for Death with Dignity spokeswoman Diane McDade says national polls by Gallup and Roper and a statewide poll conducted by Washington State University found consistent support for the concept of aid-in-dying in the range of 59 to 64 percent.

Both supporters and opponents of the "Death with Dignity" initiative are spending the summer on speaking tours, fundraising, and plotting campaign strategy. Serious electioneering and advertising will wait until after Labor Day, when voters are more likely to pay attention, organizers said.

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But They Must Keep Borders Open

RRs May Seek to Haul Tidal Wave of Trash

by Douglas John Bowen

Oil instability. Closed landfills. Environmental concerns. Skyrocketing trucking prices. Put them all together and they should spell bonanza for railroads seeking business in solid waste haulage.

But perhaps not. Many speakers spoke of rail's potential during the Rail Haul of Solid Waste '90 Conference in Baltimore, Md., Dec. 3-4, 1990. But many acknowledged that potential alone doesn't translate into profits.

"We're in an 'S' curve of industrial growth," said Robert L. Banks, president of R. L. Banks & Associates, Inc. "We are much closer now to the genesis of takeoff" for solid waste movements, after rail has struggled for "more than 20 years to enter the business in a meaningful way."

But, said Banks, most railroads are playing wait-and-see when it comes to pursuing the business; such actions "won't wash" with municipalities seeking alternatives. "To make money, you have to spend it."

Steven H. Fraser agreed. The vice president of Interstate BI-Modal, Inc. warned "The window of opportunity is closing, fast." Class I railroads are gearing up, but may be too slow. Fraser saw more hope in "a whole host of scrappy, streetfighting, short line railroads who want the business."

Big and small, railroads have the chance to win big, Fraser said, adding, "There's a tsunami (tidal wave) of waste emanating from Long Island, New York and New Jersey."

Still, the railroads have held back, according to Rod Willey of Waste Placements. "The railroads are going to be the secondary haulers of waste in the United States, at least to the end of the century," he said. "A window of opportunity exists. But I think if railroads are not moving by the end of 1993, you'll be kissing off part of the market."

Conrail's Wayne Michel did not argue with the sense of urgency. "I agree with Steven (Fraser); the timeframe is now," the director of asset management said. But he cautioned, "we're not going to buy the business on the hope that in 1995 we can double our prices."

Interstate Restrictions

More troubling to some attendees was the double standard being applied by states on interstate transportation. Anthony Kruglinski, president of the Railroad Financial Corp. and host of the conference, noted the difficulties facing railroads involved in interstate hauls—a problem more restrictive for eastern operators. "If you're on the East Coast, you're virtually certain to cross someone's state line," he said.

Lobbying at the state and federal levels is needed to avoid the "balkanization" of the business, Steven Fraser declared: "If we don't keep those borders open, we're going to be stuck with the intrastate business."

So far, the states are racing, unchecked, to limit or prohibit interstate solid waste traffic, driven largely by environmental concerns and the NIMBY (not in my back yard) syndrome. As 1990 ended, 43 states had implemented, or were considering restrictions on out-of-state waste, said

John H. Turner, association counsel, National Solid Waste Management Association (NSWMA).

Ironically, said Turner, the same number of states (43) "import or export some amount of solid waste; 38 states do both." And virtually every state transported some kind of waste across state lines, including western and southern states with large land areas.

Obstructions of such transport "butt up against the commerce clause of the U.S. Constitution," Turner asserted. The Supreme Court ruled in 1988 that waste is a commodity, overturning a New Jersey court ruling, he said.

Intrastate options abound.

Regardless of such legal battles, opportunities are surfacing for rail haul of solid waste within a given state's own borders.

Rail Cycle, a joint venture between Santa Fe and Waste Management of North America, is preparing "a long-term solution to southern California's solid waste crisis," said Garth R. Morgan. Rail Cycle, plans "not only to sort and move, but take and market" recyclable materials to large users such as DuPont or American Can Co., he said.

Santa Fe power will utilize 25-to-30 ton sealproof dedicated containers to haul Rail Cycle's solid waste products to a landfill in San Bernardino County with a capacity of 200 million tons of recycled refuse. Morgan said the site's service life is at least 65 years.

News of another intrastate solid waste move with high promise—and within the small eastern state of Maryland—surprised many at the conference. Robin Depot, project manager, North Maryland Waste Disposal Authority, said Maryland chose rail intermodal operations because of flexibility and because of environmental considerations.

CSX will provide 7 unit double-stack trains with dedicated crews for the 18 mile move; an unnamed vendor will operate the resource recovery system for NMWDA. The authority expects to spend \$300 million to finance the project through bond sales.

"The problem," Depot cautioned, "is that bondholders are risk-averse. You must have some guarantees that trash can get to the plant—and get there every day."

Moreover, bondholders and the public at large must know that railroads still exist. Gordon H. Fay, chairman of the Bay Colony Railroad, repeated an observation made at last year's conference: "We have a dilemma; we, railroads, are invisible to the general public."

Bay Colony's SEMASS success proves that railroads can handle short distance moves of solid waste from transfer stations to incinerators. But the success was in large part due to public approval of rail solid waste moves, spurred by a high level of environmental awareness among Cape Cod residents, Fay said.

Such public approval is often lacking elsewhere, according to Barry L. Vann, director-environmental logistics for Burlington Northern. Vann described efforts by BN to establish an

intrastate solid waste haul (Oklahoma) and efforts for an interstate move (Edgemont, South Dakota). Both ran into NIMBY opposition. Oddly, Edgemont residents themselves welcomed BN's efforts, but a statewide vote rejected BN's plans last fall.

"Disposing of solid waste is not an economic issue," Vann said. "It's a moral issue in many people's minds."

Marshalling equipment

For railroads, solid waste also is an equipment issue; here, the news was seen as upbeat, even among panelists who disagreed over which equipment type would prove best.

For Conrail's Wayne Michel, intermodal containers are the leading contender. "We're using the 92-ton boxcar approach, but it's not ideal. More intriguing are some of the intermodal concepts we've seen here," he said.

Others, including IBMI's Fraser and Bay Colony's Fay, also gave COFC intermodalism high marks. Fraser spoke favorably of the Railway Plus system designed by Intermodal Technologies, Inc., which utilizes 5,000 pound aluminum boxes that can be unloaded with ease at any dump site.

Regardless of the product, however, "We have to have a system that's flexible; then working within the ISO design envelope will be the best approach," Fraser said.

In the end, the railroads may decide which system is needed by seeking customer input, according to R. Thomas Schoonmaker, principal of R. T. Schoonmaker, Inc. "It's a good idea to let the customer develop the equipment, because the customer knows what works."

Unclear Efforts

But will the customer seek out the railroads to handle municipal solid waste? To Martin M. Brunswick III, of Enviro/Services, Inc., the answer is yes—but the railroads must be ready to reach out in return.

"I believe railroads do not have competition with trucking beyond the 300 mile Haul," Brunswick observed. Conservative estimates under that scenario should place 54 million tons of waste "moving interstate, by rail."

But rail has not reached out, Brunswick charged. The waste industry has compared the prices "and has adjusted—by not using rail."

Jerry Stoneburner was more blunt. "I haven't used rail yet," said the head of Better Management Corp. of Ohio. "I'm getting close to doing so. But it does not appear as though trucking will be eliminated from the business any time in the near future."

Indeed, truckers regularly compete beyond the 300 mile range detailed by Brunswick for both loose and baled MSW. Railroads must compete, Stoneburner said, by offering two things: a 2.5-to-1 payload to weight ratio; and 90 ton load capacity.

"Each of us in our own business must compete with someone," Gordon Fay noted. "For me, that's the motor carrier."

Martin Brunswick expressed frustration that so little had changed since last year's Philadelphia conference. "Too many railroads are just waiting to let prices rise to meet their expectations of the market," he said. "The time, I believe, has been wasted. We must begin now; at this late date, to do whatever is necessary to win this market."

"Rail haul still is in a fumbling, bumbling, stumbling pre-takeoff phase," said Robert Banks. "Most railroads are still playing wait-and-see."

"We've made a commitment to moving solid waste with rail," Martin Brunswick asserted. "So far, rail has not made a commitment in return. I hope this will change."

Reprinted with permission from *Railway Age*, January, 1991



Lulu
is on vacation

Fifteen Hundred Bankers Hold Protest Rally

Ontario Fights Recession by Upping Social Programs

Jane Slaughter

Imagine a highly industrialized state which contains one-third of the U.S. population. Then imagine that a union-backed third party took over that state's government and every major city government.

That's approximately what happened in Canada last September when the voters of Ontario put the New Democratic Party into office.

The NDP stands out among all other governments in North America. While cities, states, provinces and the federal governments in both Canada and the U.S. are meat-axing their budgets—cutting back services and forcing austerity on public employees—the NDP is pumping money into the province, redoubling efforts to help working people and those in need. And it is passing legislation aimed at improving the status of women and minorities.

For many years the NDP seemed doomed to finishing a poor third in Ontario, despite previous victories in British Columbia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Yukon. This time the NDP's strength in the Ontario Parliament jumped from 19 to 73 seats. The Liberal Party took 36 and the Conservatives, who hold power nationally, only 20.

The NDP won office, its leaders and activists acknowledge, as much because of voter disgust with the other parties as out of enthusiasm for the New Democratic Party itself. Canada's Free Trade Agreement with the U.S., which the NDP estimates has cost 250,000 Canadian jobs, was a big part of this.

Fifty-nine of the 73 NDP members of Parliament are first-termers. Nineteen are women and 27 are unionists. Larry O'Connor, for example, was an auto worker at a GM plant near Toronto; his previous political experience was on his local's political education committee. The new government is full of people like him—activists who now find themselves holding the reins of government.

In late April, confronted with Ontario's worst recession in over 50 years, the NDP presented its first budget. Besides the lost revenue resulting from high unemployment, Ontario has also lost \$3.5 billion from federal cutbacks to the provinces on health, education and welfare. Both the national government and the other provinces are following a scenario which is now accepted wisdom in the U.S.—reduce deficits by cutting social services.

The NDP's budget flies in the face of this wisdom. It includes:

- a major increase in funding for roads, bridges, hospitals and schools, expected to create 70,000 jobs
- large increases for social assistance, mostly to cover the huge numbers of people added to the rolls by the recession;
- accelerated housing programs;
- \$175 million to protect workers whose plants shut down from being cheated out of unpaid wages and benefits;
- money to implement pay equity (mandated by

law in both the private and public sectors in 1988):

- a tax increase for those with incomes over \$84,000—from 10 percent to 14 percent. The additional revenue will be used to exempt more low income workers from taxes.

The outcry in the media and from business was immediate. Banks lowered the province's credit rating, making it harder and more expensive to borrow—and sending a warning. Fifteen hundred bankers and brokers rallied at Queens Park, the seat of government, to protest increasing the deficit.

But the NDP argues that equity, job creation, and compassion for those suffering are more important than the deficit. They argue that pumping money into the province, together with tax reform, is the best way to increase the tax base.

In the fall the NDP will introduce a package of labor legislation. They want to make it easier for new unions to be certified and are considering anti-scam legislation like that of Quebec, where no employer may hire anyone from outside to work during a strike.

While cities, states, provinces and the federal governments in both Canada and the U.S. are meat-axing their budgets—cutting back services and forcing austerity on public employees—the NDP is pumping money into the province, redoubling efforts to help working people and those in need.

During the campaign the NDP pledged to raise the minimum wage to 60 percent of the industrial average.

The NDP talked about a minimum income tax for corporations during its campaign, and will propose tax reforms. It has already introduced an impressive array of social legislation, including:

- improvements in parental leave for each parent;
- extending pay equity legislation to cover more women;
- stronger affirmative action laws covering women, visible minorities, native peoples, and the disabled;
- automatic payroll deduction of child support payments;
- greater availability of abortion services.

It's not surprising that the New Democratic Party is under heavy attack from big business. But the NDP also faces criticism from among its own supporters. Some feel that the NDP should be doing more to mobilize the movements, including the labor movement, which brought it to power, and to challenge the prerogatives of big business.

"The Throne Speech (the equivalent of a state of the State address) had a list of policies but nothing on vision," says Leo Panitch, professor of political science at Toronto's York University. "The speech was explicitly designed not to inspire people. For example, they'll make union organizing easier, but there is absolutely no movement to give government employees the right to strike."

Asked about the NDP's relationship to the social movements, Premier Bob Rae told Labor Notes, "We're showing a real determination to work with these groups, but at the same time to recognize that we're a government. And that means we have some responsibilities to everybody, to the whole population."

Dave Robertson, a research for the Canadian Auto workers, says, "There have been no signals from the government around notions of economic planning or intervention. They want to deal with the effects of capital's moves humanely, but as far

as different rules, it's not there."

Rae also advocates labor-management cooperation programs, which a good chunk of the Canadian labor movement has rejected.

The Ontario NDP faces real constraints, especially as long as it must live with a Conservative federal government and the federal Free Trade Agreement. "There is this real dilemma for every social democratic government," Bob Rae muses, "which is, how do you get capital to invest if it's reluctant to do so? That's the other thing I've learned: that sometimes there are no answers, just questions..."

Geoff Bickerton, a staffer for the Canadian Union of Postal Workers, notes that "the NDP was elected on a modest agenda. The right wing is really attacking them. It's clear that when they move on more substantive measures than they have already, there will be a huge struggle. It could revolve around labor legislation or the minimum wage."

"Many people are willing to wait and see what happens. To me, we in the unions should be doing work now to mobilize our members around the minimum wage—they have to be involved, not just leave it up to the government."

Reprinted from Labor Notes

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Spending Patterns Indicate Record Year For Lobbyists

by Kathleen Rutledge

Who is giving the business to legislative lobbyists? Business.

Businesses in general spent \$735,943 to lobby the Legislature during the first six months of this year, according to reports filed in the legislative clerk's office.

"Business has a lot at stake at the Legislature," said Dwayne Richard, president of the Retail Merchants Association of Nebraska. The association spent \$40,931 on lobbying, mostly for salaries for him and another staff lobbyist.

The group was concerned about reimposition of a personal property tax on business inventory, a possibility that has been averted for now. They also focused on environmental issues and a pharmacy bill.

"As the complexity of government grows, I think a lot of groups see it as a necessity to have representation at the Legislature," Richard said.

Overall, 651 special interests spent \$3.5 million on lobbying during the first half of 1991. That is \$4,069 for each of the 857 bills introduced during the regular session. Those special interests employed 328 lobbyists, one for every two and one-half bills.

If the spending pattern continues, 1991 will be a record year for money spent on lobbying in Nebraska. Special interests spent a total of \$4.2 million on lobbying in 1990 and \$4.6 million in 1989.

SPECIAL INTEREST, TOO

Local governments are special interests, too. They came in second in the tally of expenditures for lobbying: more than \$300,000.

Taxpayers in Lancaster County contributed their share to that tally. Lancaster County Commissioners expended \$9,000 on lobbying, the city of Lincoln \$24,066 and Lincoln Public Schools \$34,013.

That expenditure by the school district places it on the list of single greatest expenditures to influence the Legislature. Its staff lobbyist, Meg Lauerman, was joined this year by two contract lobbyists, Walt Radcliffe and Jim Ryan. Ryan died in June after the session ended.

Lauerman works on many bills for the district, but Radcliffe and Ryan concentrated on supporting one, which did not pass, that would have increased the Lincoln district's share of state aid to schools. They also monitored a school district affiliation bill that passed.

BIGGEST EXPENDITURES

Although Lincoln Public Schools made the list, the biggest single expenditures were made by the National Rifle Association and the Central Interstate Low-Level Waste Compact.

The NRA spent \$124,292 to stop a bill that

would have required a waiting period for handgun purchases. Little of that went for entertainment—only \$1,827—and a lot went for miscellaneous, which includes the cost of newspaper advertisements and mailings.

On the other side of the question was Handgun Control Inc., which reported spending \$33,815 on lobbying.

The Legislature ultimately passed a compromise bill that requires people who want to buy handguns to get a three-year certificate from local law enforcement. It also provides for developing a system of instant background checks.

CAME IN SECOND

The compact, which is planning to build a disposal site in Boyd County, came in second by spending \$88,519. Its lobbyists successfully opposed, among other measures, a bill requiring community consent before the facility is built.

Radcliffe, one of the commission's lobbyists,

Petitions Available for Signatures at State Fair

Petition to End-Run Tobacco Lobby

by Barry Reutzel

The author is a former Nebraska State Senator. He, former Sen. Shirley Marsh, and Corrine Jones, a University of Nebraska law student, founded Nebraskans for Reform of Tobacco Laws. The group is organizing a petition drive to enact laws to decrease access to tobacco by minors. The group will have a booth with opportunities to sign the petition at the State Fair, Booth 34, in the Ag Building.

An incident in the last session of the legislature outraged me—and should you also.

The speaker of the legislature proclaimed on the floor how important it is to protect our children (minors) from tobacco products. Meanwhile the same senator's priority legislative proposal was to specifically allow free samples of one of the most dangerous tobacco products of all, chewing tobacco, to be distributed free to, among others, certain minors.

I was a state senator years ago. I know the awesome power of the tobacco lobby inside the legislature. I know, for example, about the vacation type trips on private tobacco company jets provided certain politicians and the so-called "honorariums" by which the politician gets paid a minimum of \$1,000 for a one minute or so "speech." The politician gets this money personally.

The Nebraskans for Reform of Tobacco Laws was formed recently to get laws on the books to protect children from tobacco. We decided to take our cause to the people, using the initiative process to get our proposal on the November, 1992,

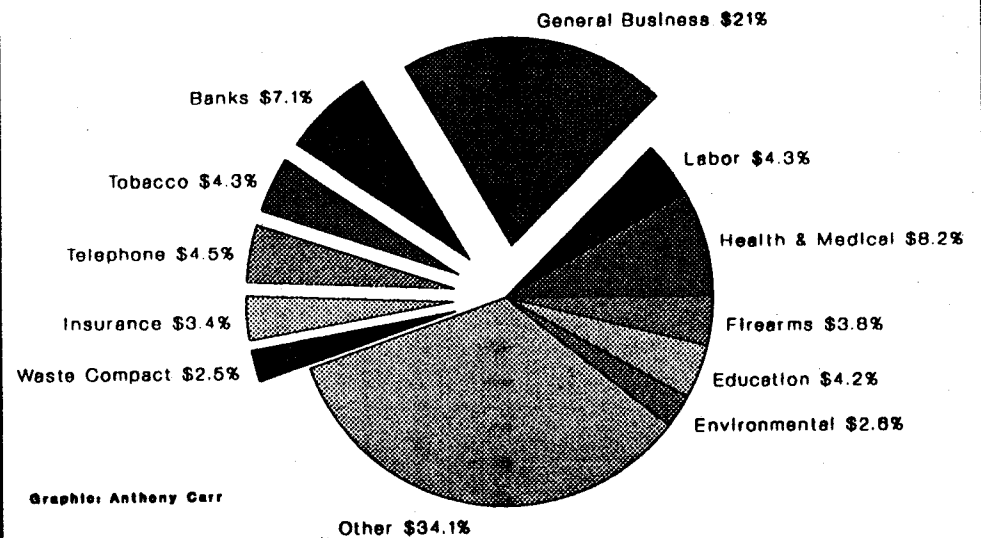
reported the highest total receipts for the 1991 regular session. He and others who represent many clients habitually top the list.

Most such lobbyists employ other lobbyists. They also pay overhead from their receipts. Of the

six lobbyists with the highest reported receipts, Radcliffe's reports indicate he spent the most on entertainment—\$29,152. None of the others reported spending more than \$5,000 on entertainment.

Reprinted with permission, Lincoln Journal-Star Printing Company

Special Interest Lobbying Expenses \$3.5 Million Total; Business: 42%



ballot rather than continuing to try to get our heavily lobbied legislature to pass such laws.

The petition drive, if passed by the voters, would primarily do two things: remove tobacco vending machines from places where minors have access and repeal current laws for certain minors to possess and use tobacco products. Additionally, the petition drive would establish laws to make it illegal for any minor to possess tobacco products except in the case of employment situations.

Current Nebraska law defines a minor as anyone under 19 years of age. The tobacco lobby has carved out an exception to that when it passed a law saying tobacco products could be sold to "minors, 18 years old." Clearly in the eyes of the law, an 18-year-old is deemed a minor. What we want to do by petition is overcome the influence

of the tobacco industry on the legislative process and eliminate those still in high school from being able to legally purchase and use tobacco products.

Another large part of the health problem is the access to tobacco through vending machines. By removing unsupervised tobacco vending machines from access to minors we hope to eliminate a great deal of the health hazard to our junior and senior high students.

Some recommended reading for those who would like further information about the problem of young people and access to tobacco: "Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report," May 31, 1991, Center for Disease Control. Our office, Nebraskans for the Reform of Tobacco Laws, P.O. Box 84912, Lincoln, NE 68501, can send you a copy.

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New Sports Opportunities Open in Nebraska

oe DiCarlo, Training Director for Special Olympics

Organizers of Unified Sports, a new facet of Special Olympics which integrates athletes with and without mental retardation into teams of similar age and abilities, would like to increase the program in Nebraska.

The purpose of Unified Sports, launched throughout the United States in 1989 after two years of field testing, is not only to provide the opportunity for people with mental retardation to participate in sports, but also to mainstream people with mental retardation into the community at large.

Through Unified Sports, Special Olympics is trying to keep athletes from being segregated by providing the opportunity to socialize with others of similar age with whom they would not otherwise have the chance to interact in a normal setting. By participating in a Unified sports program, individuals also learn routines and develop self-confidence and self-esteem.

Community members who get involved in the program will have the opportunity to participate in athletic events in a less competitive atmosphere, while at the same time improving their own physical condition--and learning that people with mental retardation have capabilities that enable them to be productive citizens. Unified Sports also provides the opportunity of beginning an exercise program while gaining the satisfaction of helping others.

Unified Sports is not a field day, but an ongoing program for physical training and competition during regular sport seasons throughout the year. There are activities for people of all ages and skill levels. Sports include: basketball, bowling, softball, soccer, volleyball, long distance walking and running, croquet, horseshoes and bocci, which is a form of lawn bowling. Teams are made up of approximately equal numbers of people with and without retardation.

This is an excellent opportunity to integrate athletes with and without mental retardation in a

setting where all athletes are challenged to improve their skills. Coaches' training schools will be conducted for coaches who wish to attend. Training schools and clinics will be provided for athletes at regional training centers. Teams may participate in Unified Sports divisions at Special Olympics Area, Chapter, and National Games. This year the American Bowling Congress dedicated the first day of their national tournament to Unified Bowling. It is expected this will become an annual event.

Join the World of Winners; Join a Unified Sports Team. For further information, call Nebraska Special Olympics office at 731-5007 or 1-800-247-0105.

*The Unified Sports program in the Metro Omaha area is focusing initially on individuals who have graduated from school—22 years and older. It is currently limited to four sports: bowling, long distance walking, long distance running, and basketball.

Reprinted from the GOARC Gazette, August 1991

A Lesson For the World

Special Olympics Deserve Sports Page Coverage

by Colman McCarthy

WASHINGTON—A Greek athlete named Savvas Vikelis went to Minneapolis a few days ago and ran 13.1 miles to win a half-marathon in a time of 1:26:22. A 36-year-old Pennsylvanian, Loretta Claiborne, took the woman's marathon in 1:45:49. Up against the competition of the Tour de France, of Jose Conesco's latest home runs and growls at fans, and of new revelations about steroid abuse, the world didn't much notice Vikelis and Claiborne. It should have.

Both are mentally handicapped runners who joined 6,000 other athletes from some 100 countries in Minneapolis for the 1991 International Special Olympics. No sporting event in the world this year is larger. In addition to the 6,000 athletes from ages 8 to 69 competing in several dozen individual and team events, 30,000 volunteers were on hand. Nor does any other sporting event have the purity of genuine amateurism: participants, coaches, referees, volunteers and families taking to the field or sidelines for the gold of friendship and celebration, not the gold of contracts and endorsements.

Differences between the Special Olympics, which was begun in 1968 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver on the front lawn of her home in Maryland as a semi-picnic for a few local retarded children, and the regular Olympics were on the mind of John Chaplin. He was officiating as a volunteer for the seven days of games in Minneapolis, which had an attendance of 129,000.

Chaplin, the track and field coach at Washington State University for 25 years and chairman of the international competition committee for the Olympics to be held next summer in Barcelona, said he would long remember the mentally retarded athletes in Minneapolis. "They give it all they've got. Whether they win or just finish is a

great thing for them. If you go to the Olympic games or the Pan American games, to those guys how they finish means how much more money they get. I realize that's life but it's refreshing to have somebody just compete for competing and not for what he can get out of it."

One result of the professionalization of sports is that many in the media put down Special Olympics as only a human-interest event, not an athletic competition. Self-esteem for the retarded is fine, for sure, but put it in features, not the sports section. And definitely don't give it live television coverage.

During the week of the Special Olympics, in which retarded athletes were winning competitions in times that were faster than ones set in regular Olympics 30 or 40 years ago, network television, along with cable's ESPN, went with conventional money sports. Instead of showing Savvas Vikelis and Loretta Claiborne in the half marathon, ESPN was covering pro beach volleyball, hydroplane racing and the Monster Truck Challenge.

Among those holding the view that Special Olympics should be seen as sports, and not a recreational sideshow, is Dr. Tim Baker, a volunteer in Minneapolis and the director of the Penn Relays, the world's largest track meet. "Special Olympics should be viewed as an integral part of our sport. Yes, we do tend to focus at the top but the base of the sport includes masters, high school and college students, and Special Olympians."

Athletes left Minneapolis with 10,800 gold, silver and bronze medals and 12,800 ribbons. They took home also the message of peace from Sargent Shriver, the chair of Special Olympics International. At the farewell ceremonies, as reported on the front page of the Twin Cities Star Tribune, he said, "Despite the hard competition,

no one has been hurt, no one has cried foul, no one has complained, no one has cheated, no one has tested positively for drugs. The Northern and Southern Irish have played together as a team. The Arabs and Jews have cheered for one another...The Communists and capitalists have competed against each other and remained friends. That's the way the whole world should be. That's the way the Special Olympics is."

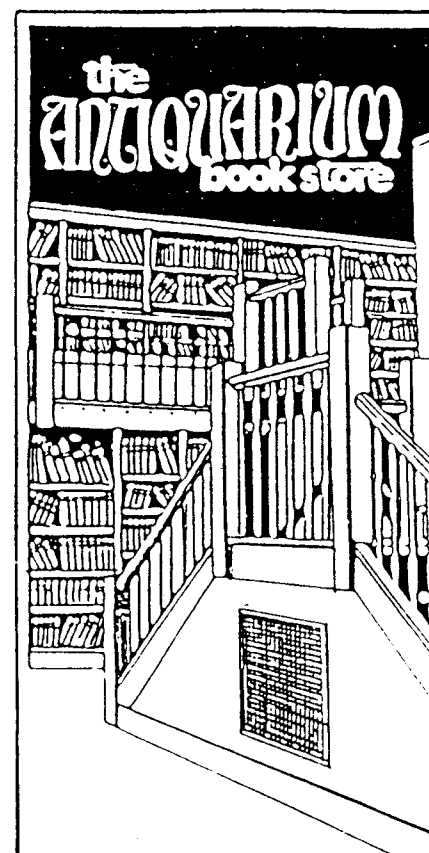
The mystery is, why do we call Special Olympics retarded? The peaceable kingdom that is their sporting event looks to be the height of enlightenment.

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Project Censored Deadline November 1

The deadline for nomination of the top undercover news stories for the national research project on censorship will be November 1, 1991.

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1 p.m.-7 p.m. Sat.; 1 p.m.-7 p.m. Sun.

Joslyn Art Museum

2200 Dodge, Omaha.

342-3300

Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tues. & Wed., Fri. &
Sat.; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Thurs.; 1 p.m.-7 p.m. Sun.Through Oct. 20th-Salvator Rosa: Etchings;
Arnulf Rainer: Drawing on Death.Through Oct. 27th-Elizabeth Layton:
Drawing on Life.Through Nov. 17th-Painting by the Rules:
Academic Paintings from the Permanent
Collection.Sept. 14th-Nov. 10th-The Landscape in
Twentieth-Century American Art: Selections
from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.**Local Artists' Exchange**

Standard Blue, 1415 Harney, Omaha.

Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; noon-4 p.m.
Sat. & Sun.**Metro Arts Artspace**

601 S. 16th St., Omaha.

341-7910

Hours: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. or by appoint-
ment.**Museum of Nebraska Art**

24th & Central Ave., Kearney.

(308) 234-8559

Hours: 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Tues.-Sat.

Through Sept. 8th-Patsy Smith, paintings.

Through Sept. 29th-National Photojournalism
Competitive.**Passageway Gallery**

417 S. 11th St. Omaha.

341-1910

Hours: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Wed.; 11 a.m.-9
p.m. Thurs.; 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri. & Sat.; or by
appointment any time.**Photographer's Gallery, Inc.**

4831 Dodge St., Omaha.

551-5731

Hours: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; 1 p.m.-5 p.m.
Sun.; closed Sat.; or by appointment any time.**Sheldon Memorial Art
Gallery**

12th & "R" Sts, UNL Campus, Lincoln.

472-2461

Hours: Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun. 2
p.m.-9 p.m.; Thurs.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed
Mon.

Through Sept. 29th-Patchwork and Pattern.

Through Sept. 30th-Diversities of Asian Arts
& Crafts.Sept. 3rd-Nov. 17th-One of a Kind:
Polaroids by Kent Klima.Sept. 3rd-Nov. 24th-A Photographic
Itinerary: Recent Works by George Tuck.**13th St. Gallery**

1264 S. 13th St., Omaha.

Hours: 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Fri., Sat., & Sun.

Sioux City Art Center

513 Nebraska St., Sioux City, Iowa.

Through Sept. 29th-Upper Midwest
Sculpture Invitational.Through Oct. 13th-Selections from the
permanent collection.**University of Nebraska at
Omaha Gallery**

616 S. 11th St. (2nd floor in CAT Bldg.)

Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Through Sept. 20th-Material People.

**Other Midwest Gallery List-
ings****Art Institute of Chicago**

Michigan at Adams St., Chicago, Illinois.

(312) 443-3600

Hours: 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mon., Wed. &
Fri.; 10:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Tues.; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sat.; noon-5 p.m. Sun.

Admission: \$5, seniors & students \$2.50.

Des Moines Art Center

4700 Grand Ave., Des Moines, Iowa.

(515) 277-4405

Hours: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tues., Wed., Fri., & Sat.;
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Thurs.; noon-5 p.m. Sun.;
closed Mon.

Through Sept. 8th-Faculty Exhibiton.

Through Sept. 15th-Lewis Baltz: Rule
Without Exception.Through Nov. 10th-Outrage and Sympathy:
Artists on Injustice.**The Nelson Atkins Museum
of Art**

4525 Oak St., Kansas City, Missouri.

(816) 561-4000

Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tues.-Sat.; 1 p.m.-5
p.m. Sun.

Admission: \$4 adults; \$1 students.

Permanent collection free on Sat.

The Peace Museum

430 W. Erie

Chicago, Illinois 60610

(312) 440-1860

Due to the rising costs of operating the gallery, the space has been closed. They hope this is only temporary. If fund-raising is successful, they would like to celebrate their 10th birthday this fall with a grand re-opening. To support the nation's first museum dedicated to providing peace education through the arts and humanities, please send contributions to the above address.

Send Calendar information to
Jeanette Morgan
455-7205
P.O. Box 8158
Omaha, NE 68108

a r e a e v e n t s

Note: Information was current as of press time, but changes may occur. Call for updates.

DIRECTORY OF VENUES:

Ballet Omaha, performs at the Orpheum Theater, 346-7332.

Bellevue Little Theater, 203 W. Mission Ave., 291-1554.

Bemis Foundation/New Gallery, 614 S. 11th St., 341-7130. Open 11 a.m.-5 p.m. daily.

Blue Barn Theater, 1258 S. 13th St., 345-1576. Center Stage, 30th & "Q" Sts., 733-5777.

Chanticleer Theater, 830 Franklin Ave., Council Bluffs, (712)323-9955.

Circle Theater, 6064 Maple St., 553-4715.

Civic Auditorium, 18th & Capitol, 444-4750.

Creighton University, Performing Arts Center, 30th & Burt Sts.; Art Gallery, 27th & California Sts., 280-2509.

Emmy Gifford Children's Theater, 3504 Center St., 345-4849.

Firehouse Dinner and Theater, 11th & Jackson Sts., 346-8833.

Grande Olde Players, 701 S. 39th St., 345-2462.

Henry Doorly Zoo, 10th & Deer Park Ave., 733-8400.

Howard St. Tavern, 1112 Howard St, Old Market, 341-0433

Joslyn Art Museum, 2200 Dodge St., 342-3300.

Lied Center for the Performing Arts, University of Nebraska at Lincoln. For tickets write to: Lied Center Box Office, 12th & "R" Sts, Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0157, or call (402) 472-4747.

Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater, Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, 12th & "R" Sts., Lincoln. 472-5353.

Magic Theater, 1417 Farnam St., 346-1227.

New Cinema, 1514 Davenport St., 346-8033. Film screenings most weekends at 5:20, 7:30 & 9:40 Fri. & Sat.; Sun. at 3 p.m.

Omaha Civic Auditorium, 18th & Capitol, 444-4750.

Omaha Children's Museum, 500 S. 20th, 342-6164. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tues.-Sat.; 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Sun.

Omaha Community Playhouse, 69th & Cass Sts., 553-0800.

Omaha Symphony Orchestra, see listings for venues, 342-3560

Omaha Workshop Theater, 3419 "L" St., 558-2953. Shows Fri. & Sat. at 8 p.m.

Opera /Omaha, performs at Orpheum Theater, 346-0357.

Orpheum Theater, 409 S. 16th St., 444-4750.

Peter Kiewit Conference Center, 1313 Farnam St.

Rosenblatt Stadium, 13th & Bert Murphy Dr., 734-5271.

Strauss Performing Arts Center, on the UNO campus, 63rd & Dodge.

Sunset Speedway, 114th & State, 493-5271.

University of Nebraska at Omaha, 63rd & Dodge.

Upstairs Dinner Theater, 221 S. 19th St., 344-7777.

Wesley House, African Community Theater, 2001 N. 35th St.

Western Heritage Museum, 801 S. 10th St., 444-5071.

SPECIAL EVENTS

All Vietnam Era war vets are invited to the V.V.A. Chapter #146 Picnic at Papillion Park; **Sat., Sept. 7th;** 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

V.V.A. Chapter #146, Regular General Membership Meetings, 2nd Tues. of each month at the VFW Post on 33rd & Leavenworth. For more info contact Tom 453-2568.

Bisexual Support Group meets 1st Mon. of each month, 7 p.m., at the Cornerstone, (upstairs conference room), 640 N. 16th St., Lincoln.

Sept. 14, 8:30-1. GOARC Workshop on Independent Living. For parents and adult siblings of people with disabilities. Free, but you must register by September 13. Call 346-5220.

September 18, 1-4. Men Who Cook. Sponsored by the Urban League. Notre Dame Center, 3501 State St., Omaha. Tickets \$10. For ticket information call 453-9730

ENVIRONMENT, PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Earth Day Committee meets every Tuesday at Willa Cather Branch Library, 44th & Center, 6:30 p.m.

Ecology Now meets every Sun. in Elmwood Park at 4 p.m.

Youth for Peace meets every Wed., 6 p.m., upstairs at the Antiquarium, 1215 Harney.

C.L.E.A.N. (City Lead Environmental Action Nebraska) meets 1st Thurs. of each month at Dorothy Lanphier's, 5302 IZard, 554-1108.

No-Name Recycling Group meets every Sat., 10-12., 1st Presbyterian Church, 34th & Farnam.

Sept. 5th through 6th: Regional SEAC (Student Environmental Action Coalition) gathering in Manhattan, Kansas. For car-pooling contact Aram Montgomery at the Ecology Now UNL office 474-6975.

Sept. 6th: LB 425 goes into effect. Silent Vigil, 6-7 p.m. on the north steps of the capitol,

Lincoln. Sponsored by Pro-Choice Coalition of Nebraska.

Sept. 20th through Sept. 22nd: State-wide Ecology Now retreat at Hormel Park in Fremont. Call 554-2968 for more info.

Sept. 26th. Abortion Debate. Rachel McNair of Feminists for Life of America and Bill Baird, 25-year reproductive rights activist. UNO, Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom. 7:30. Admission, \$5 general public, \$3 students, faculty, staff, available at University box office, 1st floor, MBSC. Call 554-2711, Jennifer Newhouse.

Sept. 28th: Noname Recycling Fair. First Presbyterian Church, 216 S. 34th, Omaha. 10-4

Sept. 28th: Nebraskans Against the Death Penalty Annual Dinner/Meeting, St. Matthews Episcopal Church, 2325 S. 24th St., Lincoln. Dinner 6 p.m. Keynote speaker-Curt Goering, Amnesty International, U.S.A. Tickets-\$8, vegetarian option. 475-6575 by Sept. 23rd for reservations.

EXHIBITS & DISPLAYS

Through Oct. 30th- Western Heritage Museum, "First Ladies of Fashion."

FILM

Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater, Sheldon Art Gallery, Lincoln.

"Slacker" directed by Richard Linklater, plus a short "Virile Games" by Jan Svankmajer.

Thurs. Sept. 5th through Sunday Sept. 8th. Screenings at 7 & 9 p.m. Matinees on Saturdays at 1 & 3 p.m. 7 on Sundays at 3 & 5 p.m.

"Straight out of Brooklyn," directed by Matty Rich plus 2 shorts, "Darkness Light Darkness" & "Death of Stalinism" by Jan Swankmajer.

Thurs. Sept. 12th through Sunday Sept. 15th and the following week **Thurs. Sept. 19th through Sunday Sept. 22nd.** Screenings at 7 & 9 p.m. Matinees on Saturdays at 1 & 3 p.m. 7 on Sundays at 3 & 5 p.m.

The Film/Video Showcase presents "The Films of Eagle Pennell,"

Thurs., Fri. & Sat. Sept. 26th, 27th & 28th. Screenings at 3 & 7:30 p.m. on Thurs.; 3, 7, & 9 p.m. on Fri.; & 1, 3, & 7:30 p.m. on Saturday. Mr. Pennell will be appearing at the 7:30 screenings on Thurs. & Sat.

New Cinema begins its September line-up with an animation festival the 1st weekend of the month. The rest of the schedule is to be announced.

MUSIC & DANCE

The Coffee House Series will continue this fall at the Blue Barn Theater. However, it will be moved to Mon. nights at 8 p.m. starting **Sept. 2nd.** The series features original material by local acoustic artists. Bring your own coffee cup. Call 345-1576 for more info.

The New Music Tuesdays alternative series

continues this fall at the Howard St. Tavern. Scheduled for **Tues. Sept. 3rd,** Elysium Crossing and **Sept. 17th** Drasbury with Fifth of May. Topping off the month is the New Music Festival, **Thurs. through Sat. the 24th, 25th & 26th.** 27 local and regional bands will perform over three nights, averaging nine bands a night. 341-0433 for more info.

Sept. 11th- Take 6 at the Lied Center, Lincoln.

Sept. 13th- Billy Taylor and Ramsey Lewis, Lied Center, Lincoln.

Sept. 21st- American String Quartet, Lied Center, Lincoln.

Sept. 27th through 28th- Stars of the New York City Ballet, Lied Center, Lincoln.

Every Sunday 6-9. Omaha International Folk Dancers. Grace Lutheran Church, 26 and Woolworth. Beginners welcome.

THEATER

Omaha Community Playhouse

Mainstage **Sept. 6th through Oct 6th:** "42nd St."

Emmy Gifford Children's Theater

Sept. 13th through Oct. 13th: "The Velveteen Rabbit"

Firehouse Theater

Sept. 11th through Nov. 3rd: "Natalie Needs a Nightie"

Circle Theater

Sept. 20th through Oct. 26th: "Doin' Chicken"

Chanticleer Theater

Sept. 13th through 22nd: "I Remember Mama"

Center Stage

Sept. 6th through 29th: "Joe Turner's Come and Gone"

Blue Barn Theater

Sept. 20th through Oct. 13th: "The Syndrome: Four Short Plays About AIDS"

Magic Theater

Sept. 6th & 7th: "Body Leaks"

Bellevue Little Theater

Sept 27th through Oct. 13th: "A Chorus Line"

Grande Olde Players

Sept. 26th through Oct. 20th: "Close Ties"

Omaha Workshop Theater

"Old" and "Spigot Frog Pedestrian Hootenany"

dates to be announced.

Wesley House

African Community Theater

Through Sept. 8th: "The Meeting" 7:30 p.m. Fri. & Sat.

What to do With All Those Ripe Tomatoes

Drying Tomatoes in the Sun

You can make tomatoes with the unique flavor and characteristic texture of the sun-dried tomatoes sold in gourmet shops. Dry the tomatoes on screens or racks in the sun, Italian style. This will take several days in the hot sun; bring the tomatoes in at night, cover with cheese cloth when using this technique.

Oven Drying Tomatoes (Almost as good, no bugs)

Preheat oven to 200 degrees. Line baking sheets with racks. Slice tomatoes, lengthwise but not completely in half. Arrange on racks, cut side up. Sprinkle with salt. Bake for 7 to 9 hours, or until tomatoes reduce to about one-fourth in size and appear shriveled and deep red. Remove tomatoes from oven. They should be leather like. Cool for 1 hour before storing in airtight jars.

Pesto Pizza

3/4 cup of any pesto

2 cups grated mozzarella cheese

3 T. parmesan cheese

1/2 cup diced sun dried tomatoes

crust for 29"x13" pans

Spread pesto on uncooked crusts within 3/4" of edge. Sprinkle with the diced sun-dried tomatoes, then the cheese. Bake according to pizza crust instructions.

This recipe is even better cold the next day than hot.

Fettucine

Toss fettucine with olive oil, oregano. Sprinkle on sun-dried tomatoes and parmesan.

Sun-dried Tomatoes in Herb Oil

Pack sun-dried tomatoes into sterilized pint jars (about 14 per pint.) Add choice of herbs. Cover completely with olive oil. Seal jars tightly. Store at room temperature for 4-8 weeks before using. Use with pasta, salads, pizza, and spreads.

Keeps indefinitely.

Minestrone

3 T olive oil

1 cup chopped onion

4-5 cloves crushed garlic

1 cup minced celery

1 cup cubed carrot

1 cup cubed eggplant or zucchini

1 cup chopped green pepper

2 tsp. salt

1/4 tsp. black pepper

1 tsp. oregano

1/2 cup fresh chopped parsley

1 tsp. basil

3 cups sun-dried tomatoes

3 cups water or stock

3 T dry red wine

1 1/2 cups cooked garbanzo beans

1 cup cooked red pinto beans

1/2 cup dry pasta

parmesan cheese

In a soup kettle, saute garlic and onions in olive oil until they are soft and translucent. Add 1 tsp. salt, carrot, celery and eggplant. (If you use zucchini, add it with the green pepper.) Mix well. Add oregano, black pepper and basil. Cover and cook over low heat 5-8 minutes. Add green pepper stock, tomatoes, cooked beans, and wine. Cover, and simmer 15 minutes. Keep at lowest heat until 10 minutes before serving time, then heat to a boil and add pasta. Boil gently until pasta is tender. Serve immediately, topped with parsley and parmesan.

